

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08049.0923

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Vantresa STICKLER et al.)
Application No.: 10/630,589) Group Art Unit: 3629
Filed: July 29, 2003) Examiner: [To be assigned]
For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR)
MID-STREAM POSTAGE)
ADJUSTMENT)

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Each document listed on the attached PTO 1449 was cited in a communication in a counterpart Patent Cooperation Treaty application. Copies of Foreign Patent Documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider all the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

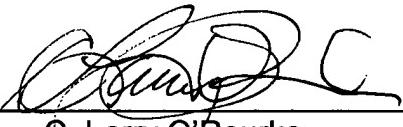
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 27, 2004

By:


C. Larry O'Rourke
Reg. No. 26,014

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mail Label No.: EV 351 293 933 US

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on this 27 day of January, 2004

By: Kay Teague
(Kay Teague)

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Atty. Docket No. 108049-3 | Appln. No. 10/630,589 |
| Applicant Vantresa STICKLER et al. | |
| Filing Date July 29, 2003 | Group: 3629 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial* | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------|-------|-----------|----------------------------|
| | 5535127 | 07-09-1996 | Uno et al. | | | 07-15-1994 |
| | 6311892 B1 | 11-06-2001 | O'Callaghan et al. | | | 08-12-1997 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | Document Number | Publication Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation Yes or No |
|--|-----------------|------------------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| | 0589723 A | 03-30-1994 | EP | | | |
| | WO 02/21388 A1 | 03-14-2002 | PCT | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| Examiner | Date Considered |
|----------|-----------------|

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.